

PCT/KR2003/002570

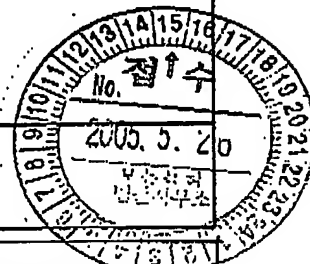
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/KR2003/002570	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 NOVEMBER 2003 (26.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 NOVEMBER 2002 (27.11.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC7 A61H 3/02			
Applicant HAN, D			



1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 9 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 28 JANUARY 2004 (28.01.2004)	Date of completion of this report 24 MAY 2005 (24.05.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/KR  Korean Intellectual Property Office 920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140	Authorized officer KWON, In Sup Telephone No. 82-42-481-5570 

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR2003/002570

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages NONE, as originally filed
 pages NONE, filed with the demand
 pages 1-7, filed with the letter of 2005.05.11
- ☒ the claims:
 pages NONE, as originally filed
 pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages NONE, filed with the demand
 pages 8, filed with the letter of 2005.05.11
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages 1-4, as originally filed
 pages NONE, filed with the demand
 pages 5, filed with the letter of 2005.05.11
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages NONE
- ☒ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☒ the drawings, sheets NONE

5.

- ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed," and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

International application No.

PCT/KR2003/002570

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following documents :

D1 : GB 108407
 D2 : US 4763680 A
 D3 : US 4625743 A

1. Novelty: Claim 1

Claim 1 of the present invention and D1 relate to a crutch. The crutch of the present claim 1 is characterized in that the support rod(12) is sharply curved between a cross-pad(13) and a hand piece(14) and gently curved downward from the hand piece, so as to be curved with two different curvatures. However the crutch of D1 is characterized to be curved with an equal curvature at the portion corresponding to the present support rod. In addition, the objective of forming the curvature in D1 is to install a seat, which is different from that of the present invention.

The crutch in D2 and D3 does not have a curvature at the portion corresponding to the support rod of the present invention.

Accordingly claim 1 is novel.

2. Inventive Step: Claim 1

D1-D3 directed to a crutch are the same as claim 1 in the technical field. None of the above mentioned documents teach or suggest the support rod portion having two different curvatures as disclosed in the present invention, and such technical feature cannot be readily adopted by a person skilled in the art from the teaching of D1-D3. In addition, the effect thereof appears remarkable over the effect with a support rod portion having an equal curvature.

Thus, the subject matter of claim 1 is inventive over D1-D3.

3. Industrial Applicability

Claim 1 is considered to be industrially applicable.